

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 448

By Massey

A RESOLUTION to honor John W. Lacey III, M.D., on his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the General Assembly recognize those individuals who, through their remarkable efforts and careers, have distinguished themselves through the compassionate care of their patients, the training of the next generation of health professionals, and the enhancement of the well-being of the citizens of the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, John W. Lacey III, M.D., a native of Knox County and a lifelong resident of Knoxville, will retire from the University of Tennessee Medical Center on March 31, 2016, after forty-two years of service to the medical center and the community; and

WHEREAS, born in Knoxville on October 10, 1947, Dr. Lacey graduated from Young High School; he earned his undergraduate degree in nuclear engineering at the University of Tennessee and his Doctor of Medicine from that venerable institution in 1973; and

WHEREAS, during his undergraduate and graduate programs, he was recognized for his academic achievements through membership in Tau Beta Pi, Omicron Delta Kappa, and Phi Kappa Phi; in addition, he earned a fellowship for the study of health physics from the Atomic Energy Commission; and

WHEREAS, he completed an internship and residency in internal medicine at the University of Tennessee Memorial Research Center and Hospital in June 1977; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Lacey then began a long and distinguished career in medicine, caring for thousands of patients in East Tennessee and beyond; he continued his commitment to medical education and was awarded the position of assistant professor in the Department of Internal Medicine in the Graduate School of Medicine at the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, his many contributions to the profession of medicine include serving as medical director of the University of Tennessee Health Plan, chairman and medical director of the Tennessee Health Partnership, president of the Knoxville Academy of Medicine, delegate to the Tennessee Medical Association, and a member of the Knox County Board of Health, the Tennessee Society of Internal Medicine, the American Society of Internal Medicine, the American Medical Association, the University Physician Association, the American College of Physicians, and the American Colleges of Physician Executives. He has also served as senior vice president and chief medical officer for the University of Tennessee Medical Center for the past eighteen years; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, he was instrumental in the establishment of the Knoxville Area Project Access, and since its inception, he has served as medical director for the program, which has provided more than \$65 million in health care for Knoxville area citizens who find themselves without insurance coverage; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Lacey has been the recipient of many awards for his contributions to the health and well-being of the citizens of Tennessee, including Tennessee's Outstanding Achievement Award presented by Governor Ned McWherter in 1991, the Tennessee Department of Health 2006 Improving Patient Safety Award, the 2009 Healthcare Hero award presented by the *Knoxville News Sentinel*, and the 2011 Outstanding Physician Award presented by the Tennessee Medical Association House of Delegates; and

WHEREAS, he was appointed by Governor Bill Haslam to serve as chairman of the Governor's Task Force on Health and Wellness for Tennessee, leading to the establishment of the highly successful Healthier Tennessee Initiative; and

WHEREAS, deeply committed to serving his community, Dr. Lacey has served on the Community Violence Prevention Task Force, the Knoxville Metropolitan Drug Commission, the Knoxville Area Hospital Study Group, the Monday Foundation Board of Directors, the Home Federal Bank Board of Directors, and the Kidney Foundation of East Tennessee. He was also a

member of the 1997 class of Leadership Knoxville and the 2015 campaign co-chair for the United Way of Greater Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, in recognition and appreciation of his community involvement, he was named United Way Volunteer of the Year in 2008; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Dr. Lacey is perhaps most grateful for the love, support, and companionship of his wife of thirty-nine years, Sylvia Denney Lacey; they are the proud parents of three children, Jennifer Jane, John William Lacey IV, and J. T. Kirkpatrick, and the loving grandparents of five grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Dr. John W. Lacey III has provided compassionate care for his patients, served as an inspiration and role model for the next generation of health professionals, provided leadership to the medical community of East Tennessee and the entire State, and has been a committed leader in civic, business, and philanthropic activities; and

WHEREAS, the University of Tennessee Medical Center and the citizens of the State of Tennessee have benefited from his considerable talents and dedication to serving others; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we congratulate and thank John W. Lacey III, M.D., recognizing his outstanding contributions to the practice of medicine, his care for his patients, and his record of volunteer and community service. We extend to him our best wishes for a healthy and happy retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.